

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3984
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T USNATO 5554

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC
SUBJ: NUWEP PAPER FOR FRENCH

REF: STATE 237253 041859Z OCT 75

SUMMARY. MISSION PASSED US NUWEP PAPER, PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS OF DPC, TO FRENCH DELEGATION PER REFTEL. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF PRESENCE OF WASHINGTON VISITORS, MISSION OFFERED TO ATTEMPT TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS AMBASSADOR DE ROSE MIGHT HAVE ABOUT PAPER. DE ROSE SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN AND APPRECIATION FOR PAPER. END SUMMARY.

2. CHARGE, ACCOMPANIED BY DR. GAFFNEY AND CDR MARTIN OF OSD, VISITED DE ROSE ON OCT 9. AMBASSADOR SAID HE WAS STRUCK BY HIGH SOPHISTICATION OF PAPER AND "FOUND NOTHING IN IT THAT MADE HIM JUMP." HE THOUGHT PHILOSOPHY VALID "PROVIDED OTHER SIDE PLAYED THE RULES OF THE GAME." HE NOTED THAT US DOCTRINE ADDS A RUNG TO DETERRENCE, FILLS A GAP, BUT REITERATED IMPORTANCE OF THEATRE FORCES BEING ABLE TO STRIKE USSR. HE THOUGHT IF
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ONLY CENTRAL STRATEGIC FORCES HAD THIS MISSION, HOMELANDS MIGHT BECOME SANCTUARIES. HE EXPRESSED, AS IN PAST, CONCERN THAT INCLUSION OF US F-4 AIRCRAFT IN OPTION III OPENED THE DOOR FOR THIS EVENTUAL POSSIBILITY.

2. IN BRIEF DISCUSSION OF TRIAD, AMB DE ROSE NOTED THAT MANY EUROPEANS ONLY SEE AS FAR AS NUCLEAR DETERRENCE AND FAILED TO RECOGNIZE THAT DEFENSE IS TIED TO FULL SPECTRUM OF DETERRENCE WITH CONSEQUENT NEED FOR STRONG CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE. HE SAW ROLE OF STRONG CONVENTIONAL FORCES TO FORCE SOVIETS INTO MAJOR ATTACK WHICH WOULD REVEAL THEIR TRUE POLITICAL OBJECTIVES, AND THAT IN THIS CASE NATO SHOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND APPROPRIATELY WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. DE ROSE FOUND PRINCIPLES OF KEEPING ESCALATION UNDER CONTROL, AND ENEMY NOT BEING TOP-DOG AT END OF CONFLICT "EXTREMELY INTERESTING."

4. CHARGE OFFERED TO RESPOND LATER TO ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS FRENCH MIGHT HAVE. DE ROSE, NOTING HIS IMMINENT RETIREMENT, PROMISED TO PASS PAPER TO HIS AUTHORITIES AND ASSURED US HIS SUCCESSOR WOULD PASS ON ANY QUESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE. HE SAID PAPER SHOULD BE USEFUL TO FRENCH PLANNERS, BUT QUALIFIED THIS BY SAYING THAT WHILE HE COULD SEE COORDINATION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR PLANNING BETWEEN US AND FRENCH PLANNERS, FRENCH STRATEGIC PLANNING SHOULD REMAIN INDEPENDENT OF US STRATEGIC PLANNING. STREATOR

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